

staff implementing policies that make our country prosper and thrive through their contributions.

The expertise and work ethic offered by these individuals sets an honorable example for future generations of public employees, as well as those in the private sector.

From emergency responders to librarians and educators, public servants span the spectrum of jobs. They keep our country efficient and safe. Beyond the tremendous work of civilian employees, uniformed service personnel and the members of our Armed Forces are those on the front lines in the fight to maintain national security. They provide vital strategic support for our Nation's military, both at home and abroad. Additionally, their tremendous accomplishments in providing support to our 50 States, as well as countries overseas with natural disaster relief, is to be commended.

Once again, I congratulate these employees who help make up the fabric of our country and government for performing the challenging and oftentimes thankless jobs with honor and dedication. I appreciate them for moving our country forward, as well as maintaining our safety and security.

For these reasons, I express my support of Public Service Recognition Week.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KUCINICH. I would like to take this opportunity, before we close the debate, to thank those who are involved in public service in my own community, in Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio.

Having served in municipal government for many years, I understand how important the daily work of a city is. And I know that its people who repair the streets, who pick up the garbage, who make sure that the lights are repaired, who make sure the traffic signals work, who answer calls for fire or police protection, I know that all of those individuals love their community and they deserve to be appreciated.

Also, on a county level, in Cuyahoga County, you have many workers who are unsung for their service as clerks, people who work in recording deeds, people who work in collecting taxes, people who work in seeing that welfare services are given, case workers and others, they're all public servants and all public employees. This resolution is a fitting way to honor those individuals.

And I just wanted to cite specifically Cleveland and Cuyahoga County, because, having been involved with that constituency for so long, I understand the workers who make possible the work of those various governmental jurisdictions.

At this time I would reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 1073 and the hard-working public servants it so deservedly recognizes today.

As the son of a career foreign service officer and a State Department analyst, public service—in all its forms—has always been a value in my family. Whether you're talking about soldiers putting themselves on the line for our nation, police and firefighters protecting our communities, scientists and researchers developing breakthrough medicines, or teachers and librarians educating our children, it should be clear to all who stop and think about it that America simply could not be its best without the ongoing courage, intelligence and efforts of its public servants.

That is why I believe so strongly in the enduring value of a robust, highly trained and dynamic civil service—and in pursuing public policies that can recruit and retain that kind of workforce. For me, that means pay parity for civil servants, a decent and dignified workplace across the government, genuinely fair rules for outsourcing competitions and benefit packages that will enable more of our best and brightest to pursue careers in public service over otherwise potentially more lucrative opportunities in the private sector. It also means generating a renewed sense of excitement and respect for public service careers in the culture.

Mr. Speaker, towards that end, I believe this resolution is well-deserved and a terrific place to start. I look forward to working more closely with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to put the spirit of today's resolution into action as we deliberate policy affecting our public servants throughout the rest of the year.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 1073, "Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week, May 5 through 11, 2008," introduced by my distinguished colleague from Illinois, Representative DANNY K. DAVIS. This important legislation illustrates a nation's commitment to recognize the work and fortitude of public service and the numerous citizens who are employed in that division.

Government workers have much to offer, as demonstrated by their expertise and innovative ideas, and serve as examples by passing on institutional knowledge to train the next generation of public servants. The Public Service Recognition Week encourages a new generation to consider a career in public service as an admirable profession. The week also serves to promote the significant contributions of public servants and to honor men and women at all levels of government.

During Public Service Recognition Week, Federal, State, county and local public employees take part in events such as job fairs, student activities, and agency exhibits that celebrate the broad variety of services performed by employees at all levels of government. Public Service Recognition Week, celebrated the first Monday through Sunday in May since 1985, is a time set aside each year to honor the diverse men and women who meet the needs of the Nation through work at the Federal, State and local government levels.

Throughout the Nation, public employees use Public Service Recognition Week to educate citizens about the many ways in which the Federal government serves the people and how Federal government services make life better for all of us. Public service employees are the educators who instruct us in com-

plex academia, the policemen and firemen who fight crime and fires, the physicians who fight disease and promote better health, and the military who consistently defend our freedom and advance United States interests around the world. Public service employees encompass the fields of public transportation, waste management, social services, housing, electricity and more. These hard workers deserve the care and benefits they have earned through their honorable service.

The Nation benefits daily from the knowledge and skills of these highly trained individuals. The services that these workers provide are a necessity to modern life and is understood that its universal provision should be guaranteed. It is imperative that Congress recognizes the magnitude of the worker's job and its subsequent effects on environmental integrity, human health and overall quality of life in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, we should continuously honor our government employees who have given their lives in service to this country. The most important reason for Public Service Recognition Week is the need to celebrate and recognize the valuable services that millions of public servants provide to the Nation. All too often, the contributions made by America's public employees to our democracy are forgotten—not only by our fellow citizens but even by those of us who serve. Public servants alert Congress and the public to government waste, fraud, abuse, and dangers to public health. The Federal, State, and local governments are responsive, innovative, and effective because of the exceptional work of public servants, and this involvement should not be disregarded.

Public service employees play a significant role in the greatness and affluence of the United States. I humbly commend public servants for their outstanding contributions to this great Nation during Public Service Recognition Week and throughout the year for their unyielding dedication and spirit for public service. I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation, and, in so doing, giving our public service personnel the respect and recognition they deserve.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H. Res. 1073, and yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KUCINICH. I yield back.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1073.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### SENSE OF HOUSE ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL LETTER CARRIERS APPRECIATION DAY

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 49) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that there should be established a National Letter Carriers Appreciation Day.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 49

Whereas the commercial activity and economic vitality of the Nation is significantly enhanced by the timely and efficient service of letter carriers of the United States Postal Service;

Whereas letter carriers of the United States Postal Service provide mail delivery service to over 144,000,000 households across the Nation;

Whereas letter carriers of the United States Postal Service deliver more than 43 tons of mail per year, averaging approximately 2,300 letters, cards, magazines, and circulars per carrier a day;

Whereas letter carriers of the United States Postal Service delivered approximately 212,000,000,000 pieces of mail in 2005;

Whereas letter carriers of the United States Postal Service handle over 44 percent of the world's mail volume, more than any other national postal service; and

Whereas the United States Postal Service employs over 705,000 career letter carriers and 98,000 noncareer employees, making it the 3rd largest employer in the Nation; Now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives supports the goals and ideals of a National Letter Carriers Appreciation Day to recognize the unique contributions made by letter carriers of the United States Postal Service to the well-being and prosperity of the Nation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH) and the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, we're honoring workers today, and it's appropriate, among those workers, that we single out letter carriers.

As a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I'm pleased to join my colleagues in support of H. Res. 49, which seeks to commemorate our Nation's postal carriers for their dedication and hard work.

By consistently delivering the mail in a timely and congenial fashion for over hundreds of years, mail carriers have become an irreplaceable component, not only to the economy of America, but to the culture and livelihood of our country.

I believe we have a tendency to forget how important the every day service is. Yet, if we were to go 1 day without the United States Postal Service, over 2,300 pieces of mail per carrier would go undelivered.

It is our mail carriers who help preserve the concept of universal service that is so integral to the work of the United States Postal Service.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution expressing the sense that there should be established a National Letter Carriers Appreciation Day.

The emblematic quote, "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds" is emblazoned across the front of the Farley Post Office in New York City. It is safe to say we all know this famous, yet unofficial motto of the United States Postal Service.

However, we can easily forget how much we appreciate and depend on the dedicated letter carriers of the United States Postal Service. These tireless public servants ensure that over 144 million households receive more than 43 tons of mail each year, equal to 44 percent of the world's mail volume.

Letter carriers, also referred to as mailmen or mail carriers, are the public face of the U.S. Postal Service. As the front line, carriers are routinely pressured to move faster, work harder and perform more tasks in a timely manner. In the most stressful of crafts, carriers are watched, timed and inspected more than any other employees.

There are three types of mail carriers in the United States, servicing all areas of this broad Nation. City letter carriers, represented by the National Association of Letter Carriers, skillfully navigate the expansive urban landscapes, providing efficient service to the millions of Americans living in densely populated areas.

Rural letter carriers, represented by the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association, support the diverse territory surrounding our cities. With increased development of rural areas, the Rural Carrier Craft is the only expanding craft in the Postal Service.

The final group of carriers, known as Highway Contract Route Carriers, work expansive routes where population density is less than one customer per mile driven. Driving their own vehicles, these committed carriers travel great distances to ensure timely delivery.

Whether they brave bustling urban jungles, constantly changing suburban expanses, or broad rural landscapes, these men and women brave all conditions to provide us with timely and effective mail service. For their efforts, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I'm hopeful that when this resolution passes, as I'm sure it will, that the United States Postal Service will post a copy of it in every post office in the country so that our letter carriers will be able to see that Members of Congress appreciate the work that they do.

Day in and day out our letter carriers are there. We rely on them to move the commerce of the country. Many of us are aware that the United States Postal Service is the third largest employer in America; that they employ over 700,000 career letter carriers, and 98,000 noncareer employees; that they move about 44 percent of the world's mail

volume. They have an extraordinarily important work to do in providing for communication in this country, in making sure that people here from one another in carrying messages that are so important to our commerce.

The United States Postal Service employees, these letter carriers that we're honoring today, deserve our constant appreciation for the work that they do. I'm so glad that this House is involved in paying attention to the people that do the everyday work of our Nation that aren't often recognized.

We who are in these exalted positions always need to remember that the work of the government is done in so many ways, and when somebody, step by step, moves through his or her appointed rounds, every day, out there delivering the mail, they deserve just as much respect as those of us who are holding high public office. And so it's with a great deal of appreciation for the letter carriers that I stand in support of the bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CAMP of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, House Resolution 49, which honors the dedication and contributions made by letter carriers across the country.

Being a representative of one of the largest congressional districts land-wise east of the Mississippi, I am well aware of the necessity of timely and efficient postal service.

Most of us rely on letter carriers of the United States Postal Service to deliver our monthly bills, drop off our favorite magazine, or ship an important package.

Amazingly, letter carriers delivered over 212 billion pieces of mail in 2005. That's 1.4 million pieces a day for every Congressional District.

Their dedication is accurately reflected in the unofficial USPS motto: "Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds."

This bill is a straight-forward resolution that expresses the sense of Congress that America's letter carriers make a vital contribution to the well-being and economic prosperity of our Nation and calls for a national day of appreciation to honor their service.

It is also important to recognize the contribution that letter carriers make to their communities through their community service efforts and charitable donations. These contributions are undoubtedly recognized by the American public as the USPS was voted "The Most Trusted Government Agency" earlier this month, for the fourth year in a row.

My fellow Members, we seem to spend a significant amount of time dedicating Post Offices; it is about time we honor those that work within them. I hope you will join me in saluting their efforts.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express support for House Resolution 49, which would establish National Letter Carriers Appreciation Day. I want to thank the gentleman from Michigan, Mr. CAMP, for so kindly offering this resolution.

This resolution recognizes the significant role of American letter carriers, the largest mail delivery workforce in the world, which make deliveries to over 144 million households in this country. To ensure careful delivery of our most important letters and cards,

we depend on the exceptional service provided by our letter carriers. Most assuredly, the quality of the American mail delivery system is due to the integrity and superior service of these men and women. I want to especially recognize the diligent work of Georgia's letter carriers for everything they do for my constituents in the 13th Congressional District and across our State.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I offer my wholehearted support for the passage of this important legislation in recognition of the hard work of America's letter carriers.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H. Res. 49, and yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 49.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### CORPORAL BRADLEY T. ARMS POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5631) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1155 Seminole Trail in Charlottesville, Virginia, as the "Corporal Bradley T. Arms Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5631

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. CORPORAL BRADLEY T. ARMS POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1155 Seminole Trail in Charlottesville, Virginia, shall be known and designated as the "Corporal Bradley T. Arms Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Corporal Bradley T. Arms Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH) and the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on

Oversight and Government Reform, I'm pleased to join my colleagues from the Commonwealth of Virginia in consideration of H.R. 5631, which names a post office facility in Charlottesville, Virginia, after Corporal Bradley T. Arms, a distinguished and heroic American serviceman.

H.R. 5631 was introduced by Representative GOODE of Virginia on March 13, 2008, and was considered by and reported from the Oversight Committee on April 9 by a voice vote. The measure has the support of the entire congressional delegation from Virginia, and provides us with another opportunity to pay tribute to a member of our country's Armed Forces.

A 20-year-old University of Georgia student from Charlottesville, Virginia, Corporal Bradley T. Arms was assigned to the 4th Combat Engineer Battalion, 4th Marine Division, Marine Corps Reserve, out of Baltimore, Maryland.

□ 1615

Corporal Arms left college the summer before his junior year to enlist in the United States Marine Corps where he would later serve a tour of duty in Iraq until his tragic death on November 19, 2004. Corporal Arms was killed in action in the Anbar province of Iraq.

Mr. Speaker, let's remember and pay tribute to the ultimate sacrifice made by Corporal Arms and pass H.R. 5631.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this bill to designate the post office located at 1155 Seminole Trail in Charlottesville, Virginia, as the "Corporal Bradley T. Arms Post Office Building."

On November 19, 2004, Corporal Bradley Arms was killed during small-arms fire in Anbar province, Iraq. It is only appropriate that we honor this fallen hero for the great sacrifice he made for his country.

Before becoming a Marine, Bradley was a student at the University of Georgia and a member of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. When he left Georgia before his junior year to serve in the 4th Division of the 4th Combat Engineer Battalion, it was with courage and optimism in his heart. He believed in what he was fighting for, and he wrote to his brothers of the changes he saw every day. He described his desire to influence the future of Iraq telling his friends that, "as long as we can keep younger generations open minded, then we will win this war."

His family members, who reside in Charlottesville, Virginia, remember Bradley's kindness and desire to help those who could not help themselves, one of the factors initially inspiring him to join the military.

When speaking to his parents shortly before his death, he told them he was confident that God had a plan for him and that he was exactly where he was supposed to be. While he was only 20 years old, Bradley aspired to live the life of a leader and be a positive role

model for those around him, and he did just that.

Those who knew Bradley recall his honor and enthusiasm, and in recognition of the unparalleled sacrifice he made for his country, it is fitting that we should dedicate this post office to his memory.

I would like to thank my respected colleague, Mr. GOODE, for introducing this important legislation honoring the memory of a valiant and courageous young man.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I would ask that all of our colleagues join us in paying respect, appreciation, and gratitude to the life and the service of Corporal Bradley Arms by joining us in approving this resolution which honors his name by naming a United States post office facility after him in recognition of his sacrifice.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Ohio for his eloquent words, and I, too, urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 5631.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlelady from North Carolina.

Mr. GOODE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5631, a bill I introduced to designate the Charlottesville Post Office as the "Corporal Bradley Arms Post Office Building" in honor of a young man from the 5th District of Virginia who made the ultimate sacrifice in defending the United States of America.

Marine Corporal Bradley Arms died in combat at the age of 20 in the Anbar Province of Iraq on November 19, 2004 in service to his country. Originally from Charlottesville, Virginia, "Brad" attended the University of Georgia until he was called into service with the Marine Corps Reserve.

Friends and family described Brad as a friendly, caring, optimistic, patriotic and purposeful person. The three personal items he brought to Iraq appropriately illustrate his personality: a Bible, a picture of his family, and a University of Georgia flag. Brad was also a member of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity at the University of Georgia. Family members recalled that Brad greatly enjoyed his fraternity brothers, friends, music, and faith in God.

While in Iraq, Brad often wrote to friends and family, displaying his positive attitude toward his mission in the military and demonstrating how proud he was to serve and defend his country. He said that his experiences in the military, "strengthened his resolve to live the life of a balanced man and lead by example."

Connor Rund, a young man who attends the same high school that Corporal Arms graduated from, contacted me suggesting that the Charlottesville Post Office be dedicated in Brad's honor. Since then, I have received several communications from members of the Charlottesville community in support of this tribute to Brad.

Please join me in honoring the memory of this young man who was a great son, friend, and patriot by supporting H.R. 5631 and renaming the Charlottesville Post Office as the "Corporal Bradley T. Arms Post Office Building."